

AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION:

Please amend the indicated paragraphs of the substituted specification in accordance with the amendments indicated below.

Page 11: 1st full paragraph, lines 2-6, amend as indicated below:

The melt-spun thread of Example 4 was packed in a bag laminated with aluminum and polyethylene film, the air in the bag was replaced by nitrogen gas, and the thread was irradiated by exposure to ~~radial-ray~~ radioactive rays (⁶⁰Co - γ ray) of 2.5 Mrad. The weight-average molecular weight of the thread after radiation was about 300 thousand.

3rd full paragraph, lines 13-15, amend as indicated below:

The product was vacuum-packed and irradiated, by exposure to ~~radial-ray~~ radioactive rays (⁶⁰Co - γ ray) of 2.0 Mrad, to obtain a cross-linked product having improved mechanical properties.

Pages 11 and 12: 4th full paragraph bridging these two pages, amend as indicated below:

A treated specimen was prepared composed of 100 parts hydroxy-apatite and 1 part Vitamin E absorbed in the hydroxy-apatite. A mixture composed of 100 parts of PLLA pellets of weight-average molecular weight of about 280 thousand was mixed with 30 parts of the treated specimen in apatite and molded by injector. The molecular weight of ~~PPLA~~ PLLA in the resulting composite was about 330 thousand. After forming the composite by means of a hydrostatic pressure type extruder in order to orientate the molecular chains, the composite was irradiated with ^{60}Co - γ radiation of 2.5MRad to obtain the finished PLLA/apatite composite which had a molecular weight of about 300 thousand and superior mechanical properties, for example, high tenacity and high modulus.